Alexander Berkman

War Dictionary

1917

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Allies The fairies of Democracy.

Barbarians The other fellows.

Congress The valet of Woodrow the First.

Censorship The rape of Free Speech.

Conscription Free men fighting against their will.

Civilization In God We Trust.

Democracy The voice of the Gallery Gods.

Free Speech Say what you please, but keep your mouth shut.

Huns Loyal patriots from Central Europe.

Humanity Treason to government.

Justice Successful target shooting.

Kaiser A President's ambition.

Liberty Bond A bone from a bonehead.

Liberty Loan The bread line of the Unborn.

Loyal Citizen Deaf, dumb, and blind.

Militarism Christianity in action.

Patriotism Hating your neighbor.

Registration Funeral march of Liberty.

Sedition The proof of Tyranny.

Slacker Jesus Christ.

Trenches Digging your own grave.

Un-American Independent opinion.

Un-Democratic Ideals.

Uniform Government strait-jacket.

Victory Ten million dead.

War The propaganda of Democracy.

* * *

Which is the braver? The man who falls in line with the great majority or he that faces the wrath of millions for conscience sake?

Do not confound us with the pacifists. We believe in fighting. Aye, we have been fighting all our lives — fighting injustice, oppression, and tyranny. Almost single handed at that.

We are not pacifists. But we want to know what we are fighting for, and we refuse to fight for the enemies and the exploiters of humanity.

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